

Board Meeting Summary | Friday, February 7, 2014

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Board Action:

Employee Recognition Awards

New RPU General Manager Girish Balachandran gave his first Employee Recognition Award to Assistant General Manager Steve Badgett in appreciation of his commitment to the post of Interim General Manager.

Board Approves Wildwood Way Emergency Pipeline Replacement Project

As the result of a water main break on Wildwood Way between Conway and Holly Lanes, the Board of Public Utilities approved the allocation of \$75,754 to cover the replacement of an emergency water main and pavement repairs.

Board Approves Professional Services Agreement for Electrical Engineering for Wells and Booster Stations

The Board of Public Utilities approved a Professional Services Agreement with Fountain Valley-based Carollo Engineers, Inc. The company will assist in the development of electrical standard plans and specifications for wells and booster stations.

Board Approves Recommendation to Riverside City Council to Approve Power Purchase Agreement with Solar Star California

The Board of Public Utilities recommended that the City Council approve a 25-year Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) between Solar Star California XXXI, LLC and the City of Riverside. The PPA calls for Solar Star California to design, construct and operate a 7 megawatt solar PV power plant on the Tequesquite Landfill, located not far from Mount Rubidoux in downtown Riverside. The project, known as the Tequesquite Solar Photovoltaic Project, would also provide needed renewable solar energy and Renewable Energy Credits.

The Board agreed to authorize the City Manager or his designee to execute the PPA, along with any future amendments or extensions, and to authorize the Public Utilities General Manager to execute any documents needed for carrying out the PPA. The Board also agreed to authorize the City Manager to end the PPA should it fail to be upheld as written.

To fund the project, the Board agreed to authorize the supplemental appropriation of \$988,000 from the Electric Fund and increase the project's existing work order by an additional \$988,000, bringing the work order total to \$1,192,727.

Creation and Funding of new Energy Efficiency Programs

The Board of Public Utilities recommended that the Riverside City Council approve the creation of the following energy efficiency programs, which are aimed at helping customers save energy and money:

The proposed Upstream Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning (HVAC) Program will provide local contractors and suppliers with recommendations that will ultimately help customers purchase the most efficient HVAC systems possible.

With the Multi-Family Direct Installation Program, RPU will partner with Southern California Gas Co. (SoCal Gas) to provide wide-ranging water, energy and gas efficiency programs to local residential customers. The two agencies will also partner on the proposed Food Service Direct Installation Program, which will provide energy-saving measures that benefit the food service industry.

Finally, the Key Account Energy Efficiency Plan (KEEP) will offer RPU's largest commercial customers with free energy audits that can help them save energy and money. Participating businesses will also receive financing options that may help cover the cost of implementing the measures recommended in the audits.

Board Hears Presentation on the Proposed Renewal of the Water Conservation Surcharge

The Board of Public Utilities received and filed a report given by Assistant General Manager Mike Bacich on the proposed renewal of RPU's Water Conservation Surcharge. On March 21, the Board will conduct a public hearing on the proposed renewal of the 1.5% water surcharge, which provides customers with conservation and water use efficiency programs. The hearing will take place at the Public Utilities Boardroom, located at 3901 Orange Street in Riverside.

Board Hears Presentation on the City of Riverside Greenbelt Preservation Grant Program

The Board of Public Utilities received and filed a report given by Assistant General Manager Steve Badgett on the Greenbelt Preservation Grant Program, which will help customers in Riverside's Greenbelt area develop low-impact family farming.

This summary may not include all agenda items and is not considered minutes of the meeting.